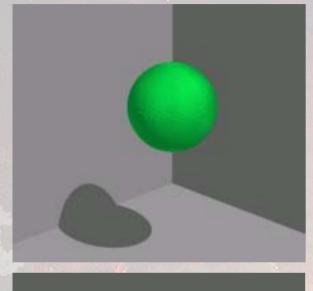
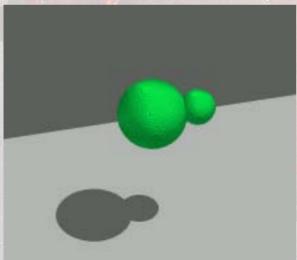
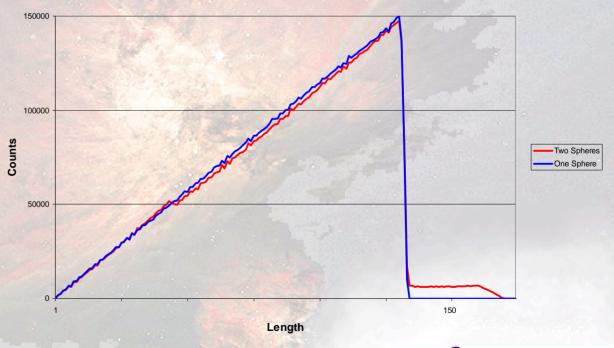
A new method for measuring the shape and physical characteristics of an object.



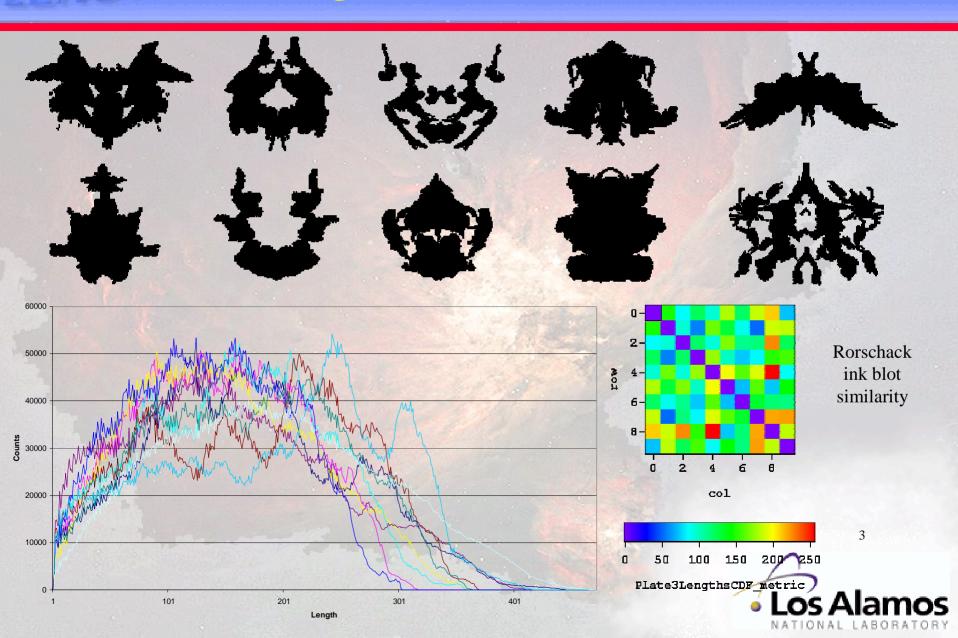




- Randomly sample pairs of points from the object's surface
- Compute the distance between those pairs of points
- Make a histogram of lengths
- Compare shapes by comparing pdf or cdf





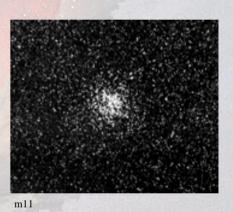


What about objects that don't have well defined edges?



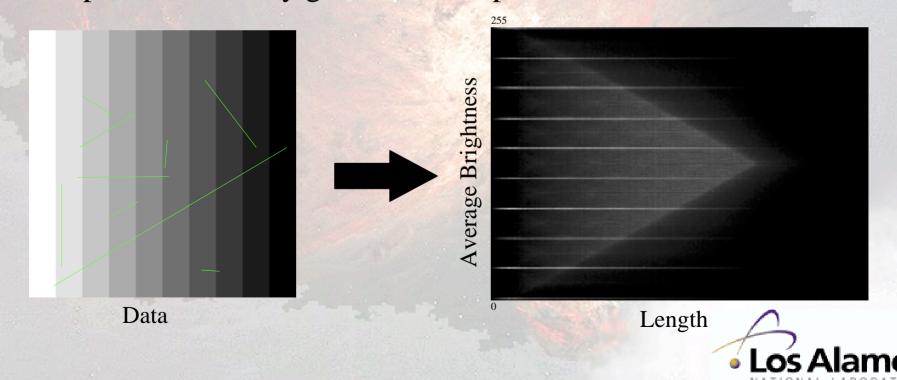




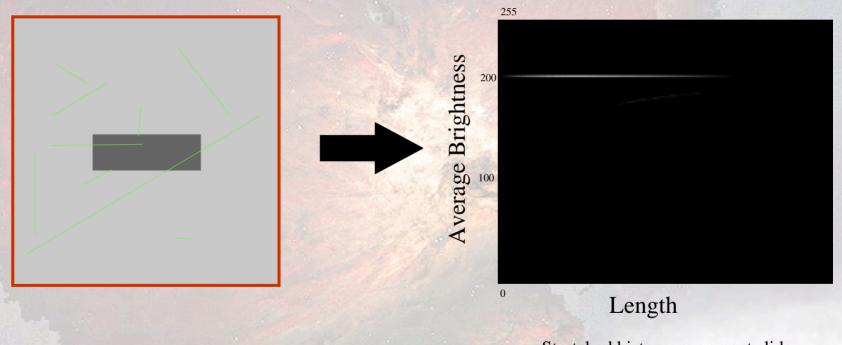




Instead of using length distributions to characterize shape, use them to characterize some physical attribute of the data such as dust density or star distribution. Example: Compute the average brightness between each pair of randomly generated end points.

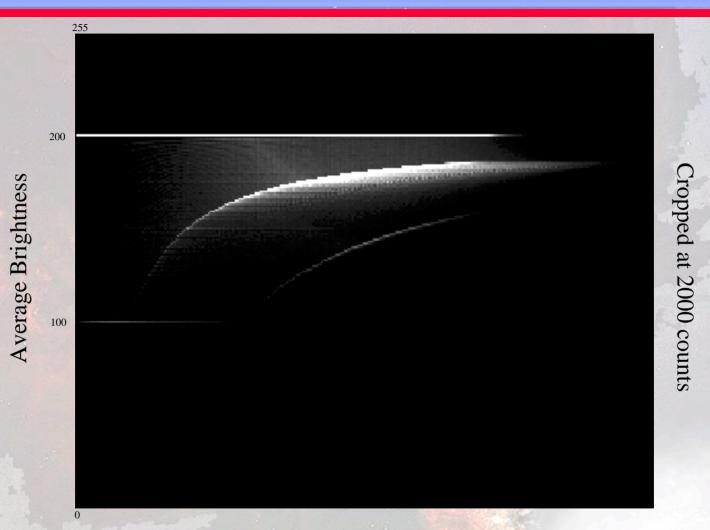


#### Second Example



Stretched histogram on next slide

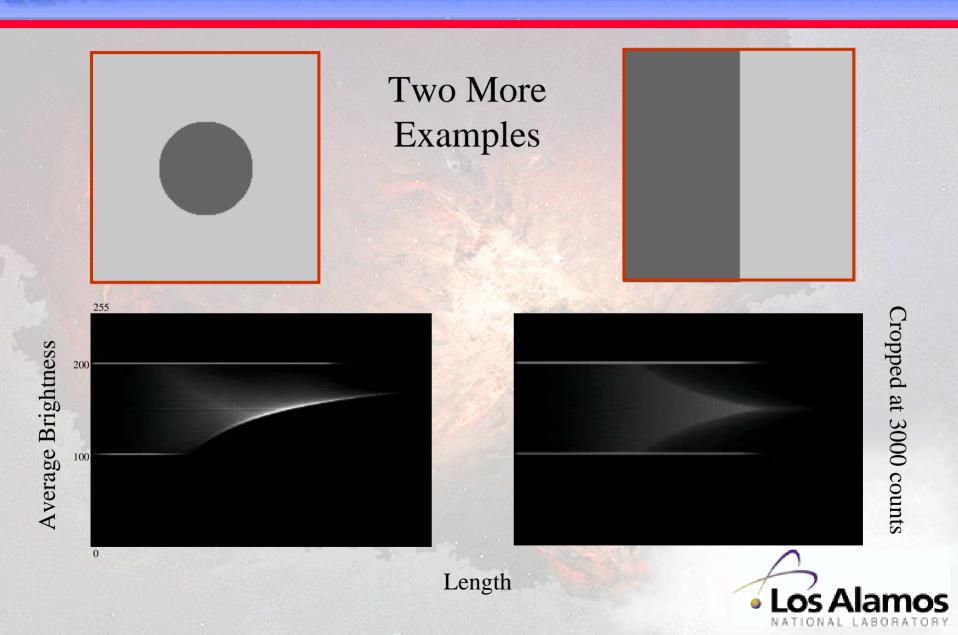




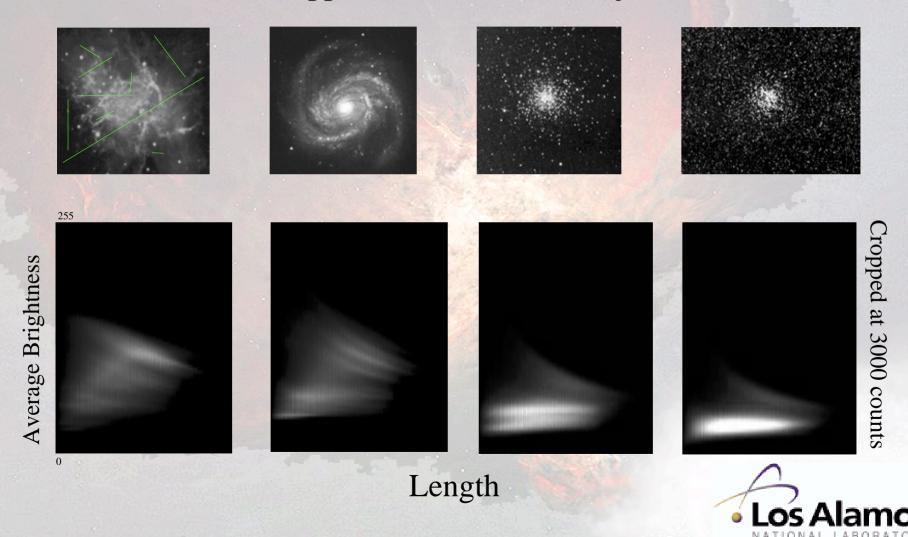
Length

The Length Distribution Histogram conveys a lot of information about the original data.

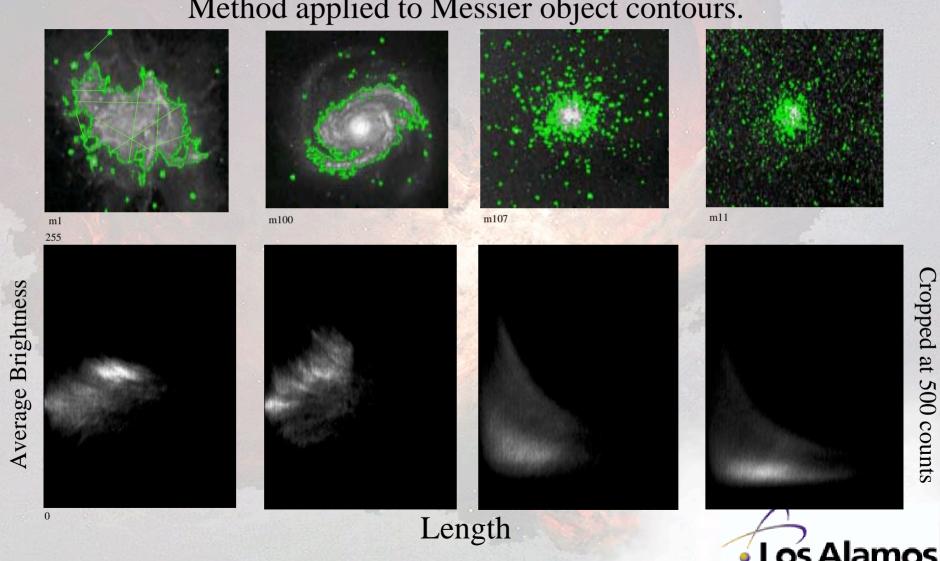




Method applied to the Messier objects.



Method applied to Messier object contours.



#### More ideas:

- Brownian path between points
- Use data distribution to weight random numbers.
- It is reminiscent of moments
- Apply lengths to wavelet thumbnail

